

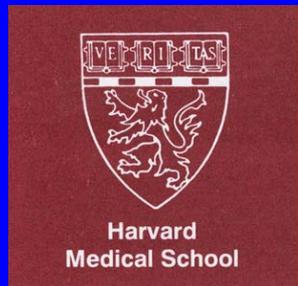
**NIDDK New Investigators Workshop**  
**Lister Hill Auditorium, NIH**  
**September 27-28, 2004**

***“Reading Your Summary Statement and  
Revising an Application”***

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# Summary Statement & Revision

## What is a summary statement?

- summary of study section review
- content
  - SRG action: priority score & percentile
  - recommended direct costs
  - two critiques
  - resume & summary of discussion

# Summary Statement & Revision

## What is critique?

- three members of study section evaluate application in-depth
- written evaluation by primary & secondary reviewer with additional comments by reader
- basis of critique
  - significance
  - approach
  - innovation
  - investigator
  - environment
  
  - overall evaluation

# Summary Statement & Revision

## Resume & Summary of Discussion

- additional comments by other study section members on grant application
  - may or may not be important
- final summary of collective evaluation of grant
  - reflects study section's general views
  - may or may not need to respond in re-application
  - minority report

# Summary Statement & Revision

## Approach to Revision of Application

- MAKE CONTACT WITH INSTITUTE STAFF
- do not respond in anger to misunderstood component(s) of grant
- must respond on a point-by-point basis to substantive concerns
- respond to each component of critique (e.g., critique 1 & 2) separately

# Summary Statement & Revision

## Approach to Revision of Application (cont'd)

- very likely same reviewers will re-review grant or at least read response to critique
- score/percentile of revised application is dependent on response to previous review
- if additional experiments/preliminary data requested - delay re-application until complete

# Summary Statement & Revision

## Common Concerns on Critique

- not enough preliminary data to justify hypothesis/specific aims
- investigator doesn't have expertise to complete approach to specific aims
- techniques proposed won't answer hypothesis/specific aims

# Summary Statement & Revision

## Common Concerns (cont'd)

- grant is a “fishing” expedition, e.g. DNA microarray analysis
- lacks clinical/biologic significance - very difficult to address

# Summary Statement & Revision

## Response to Critique

- if necessary, delay re-application until convincing preliminary data generated
- need to convince reviewers that “environment” sufficient to accomplish specific aims
  - may need letter of collaboration/biosketch with new technique
  - show new preliminary data using technique
- ask help of local expert to assess accuracy of technique
  - may need to revise approach

# Summary Statement & Revision

## Response to Critique (cont'd)

- modify re-application so reviewer can assess changes (underline, bold type)
- provide update on status of submitted manuscripts to show progress
- make sure that response to critique is easily identified in re-application

# Summary Statement & Revision

## Response to Critique (cont'd)

- if portion of grant is misinterpreted, consider revising to clarify in re-application
- communication is critical to convincing reviewer of merit of grant
- take enough time to revise so application is clear to reviewers

# Summary Statement & Revision

## Response to Critique (cont'd)

- If any problems or concerns - MAKE CONTACT WITH THE INSTITUTE STAFF